Amendments to the specification are indicated in the attached "Marked-Up Version of Amendments" (pages i - ii).

In the Claims

Please cancel Claims 1-11, 13, 15, 16, 20-28 and 30-34.

Please amend Claims 12, 14 and 29.

12. (Amended) A method of predicting the likelihood of development of a metastatic condition in a human, comprising the steps of:

a) obtaining a biological sample from a human to be tested;

b) determining the level of one or more gene products, excluding RhoC, which alter the actin-based cytoskeleton of one or more tumor cells in the human; and

c) comparing the level determined in (b) with a non-metastatic control,

wherein if the level determined in (b) is greater than the level of the gene product in the non-metastatic control, then the human has an increased likelihood of developing a metastatic condition.

14. (Amended) A method of predicting the likelihood of development of a metastatic condition in a human, comprising the steps of:

a) obtaining a biological sample from a human to be tested;

b) determining the level of one or more gene products selected from the group consisting of fibronectin, thymosin β4, t-PA, angiopoietin 1, IEX-1/Glu96, RTP/NDR1, fibromodulin, Hsp70, IL13 Rec. α2, Sec61β, snRNP polypeptide C, collagen Iα2, UBE21, KIAA0156, TGFβ superfamily, surfactant protein C, lysozyme M, matrix Gla protein, Tsa-1, collagen IIIα1, biglycan, α-catenin, valosin-containing protein, ERK-1, α-actinin 1, calmodulin, EIF4γ, α-centractin, IQGAP1, cathepsin S, and EF2, in one or more tumor cells in the human; and

c) comparing the level determined in (b) with a non-metastatic control,

wherein if the level determined in (b) is greater than the level of the gene product in the non-metastatic control, then the human has an increased likelihood of developing a metastatic condition.

29. (Amended) A method of predicting the likelihood of development of a metastatic condition in a human, comprising the steps of:

a) obtaining a biological sample from a human to be tested;

b) determining the level of fibronectin gene product in one or more tumor cells in the human; and

c) comparing the level determined in (b) with the level of fibronectin gene product in a non-metastatic control,

wherein if the level determined in (b) is greater than the level of the fibronectin gene product in said non-metastatic control, then the human has an increased likelihood of developing a metastatic condition.

Amendments to the claims are indicated in the attached "Marked-Up Version of Amendments" (pages ii - iii).

Please add new Claims 36-41.

36. (New) A method of predicting the likelihood of development of a metastatic condition in a human, comprising the steps of:

a) obtaining a biological sample from a human to be tested;

b) determining the level of one or more gene products, excluding RhoC, which alter the actin-based cytoskeleton of one or more tumor cells in the human; and

c) comparing the level determined in (b) with a metastatic control,

wherein if the level determined in (b) is the same as the level of the gene product in the non-metastatic control, then the human has an increased likelihood of developing a metastatic condition.

37. (New) A method according to Claim 36, wherein the biological sample is a blood sample or a cell sample from a tumor in the mammal.

38. (New) A method of predicting the likelihood of development of a metastatic condition in a human, comprising the steps of:

a) obtaining a biological sample from a human to be tested;

b) determining the level of one or more gene products selected from the group consisting of fibronectin, thymosin β4, t-PA, angiopoietin 1, IEX-1/Glu96, RTP/NDR1, fibromodulin, Hsp70, IL13 Rec. α2, Sec61β, snRNP polypeptide C, collagen Iα2, UBE21, KIAA0156, TGFβ superfamily, surfactant protein C, lysozyme M, matrix Gla protein, Tsa-1, collagen IIIα1, biglycan, α-catenin, valosin-containing protein, ERK-1, α-actinin 1, calmodulin, EIF4γ, α-centractin, IQGAP1, cathepsin S, and EF2, in one or more tumor cells in the human; and

c) comparing the level determined in (b) with a metastatic control,

wherein if the level determined in (b) is the same as the level of the gene product in the metastatic control, then the human has an increased likelihood of developing a metastatic condition.

39. (New) A method according to Claim 38, wherein the biological sample is a blood sample or a cell sample from a tumor in the mammal.

40. (New) A method of predicting the likelihood of development of a metastatic condition in a human, comprising the steps of:

a) obtaining a biological sample from a human to be tested;

b) determining the level of fibronectin gene product in one or more tumor cells in the human; and

c) comparing the level determined in (b) with the level of fibronectin gene product in a metastatic control,